

Trend Study 10-23-00

Study site name: Bogart-She.

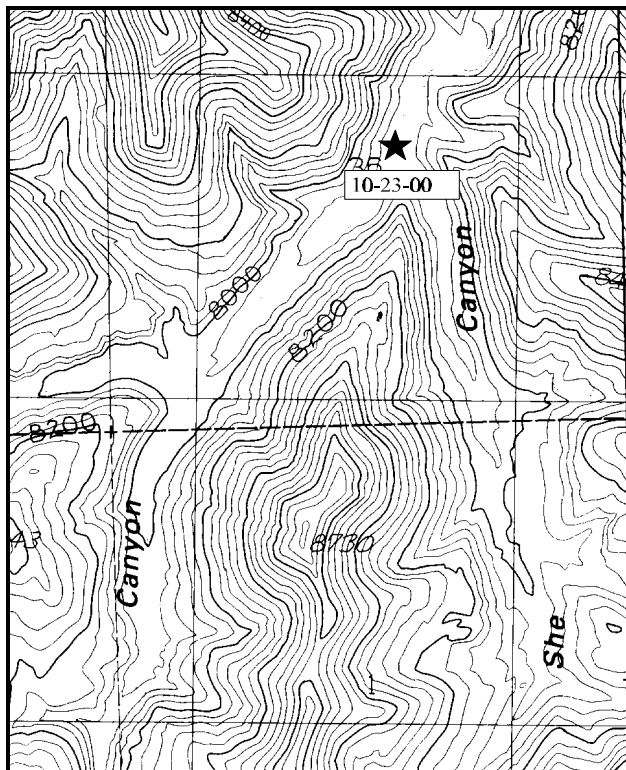
Range type: Meadow.

Compass bearing: frequency baseline 195/M.

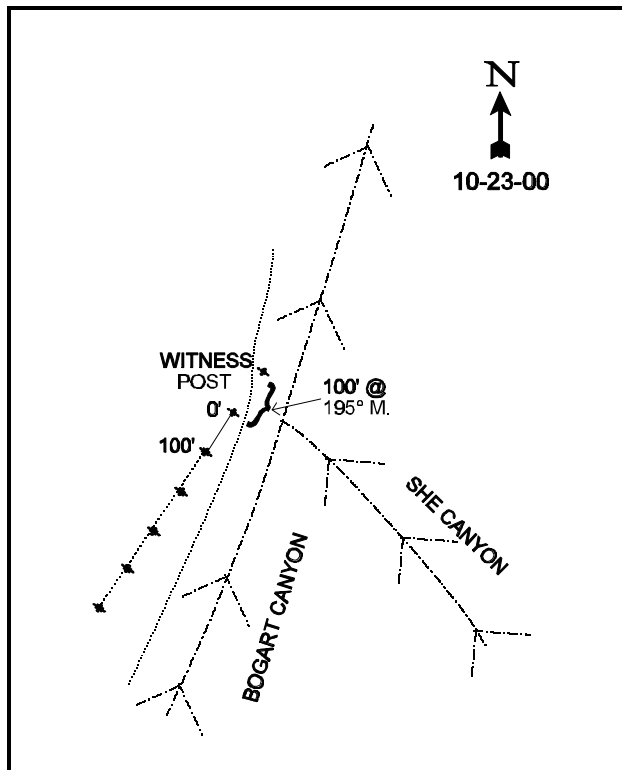
First frame placement on frequency belts 5 feet. Frequency belt placement; line 1 (11ft), line 2 (34ft), line 3 (59ft), line 4 (71ft), line 5 (95ft).

LOCATION DESCRIPTION

From the Bogart Canyon Cabin travel northeast through the drainage to the confluence of She Canyon and Bogart Canyon. There is a witness post located just off the trail. The 0 foot baseline stake is located 100 ft. from the witness post at 195/ M. The baseline runs 195/ M.



Map Name: Bogart Canyon .

Township 18S, Range 20E, Section 36

Diagrammatic Sketch

UTM. 4339744 N, 615485 E

DISCUSSION

Trend Study No. 10-23 (16B-10)

***This site was not read in 2000. Text from the 1995 Utah Big Game Range Trend Studies report is included. Consult the 1995 report for maps and data tables.

This is a new site which samples a grassy meadow at the confluence of Bogart and She Canyons in the roadless area of the Book Cliffs. The canyon is narrow, 400-500 feet wide, with conifers on the north slopes to the bottom and ponderosa pine and mixed browse on the south slopes. Elevation at the site is approximately 7,800 feet with an east aspect. Slope averages between 8-10% and drains into a small stream that runs down the canyon bottom on the lower side of the site. The area around the stream is more of a wet meadow while the transect samples the drier portion of the meadow. There has been no grazing by livestock since 1990.

Ground cover for vegetation is excellent at nearly 69% with a majority of the cover coming from grass. Litter is the other major contributor to ground cover with a cover value estimated at 57%. The loamy, light brown soil is moderately deep. At this time, there is no erosion on the site due to the abundant vegetation and litter cover. There is obvious evidence that there has been severe erosion down the stream channel in the past, but the steep sides of the stream channel have now become covered with grasses. Most of the bare ground encountered on the site is due to gopher activity and accounts for only 8% of the ground cover. Rock and pavement combined cover values contribute to just over 1%.

The dominant species on the site is Kentucky bluegrass. This grass comprises 77% of the grass cover and 54% of the total vegetative cover. Although this species is good for erosion control and forage, it is an aggressive competitor often replacing other native grasses and forbs with its sod forming growth and propensity to increase with moderate to heavy grazing. The next most abundant grass sampled is thickspike wheatgrass. This grass is considered good forage early in the season and is also good for erosion control. Carex is present on the site and also provides good forage and watershed protection. Other grasses encountered, but in low densities include: blue grama, wiregrass, and needle-and-thread grass.

A variety of forbs are scattered throughout the site with the most abundant being horsetail. The next most abundant forb is Aster followed by the invasive dandelion. Annual forb species contribute only a small percent (4%) to the total vegetative cover with most being relatively small statured species such as stickseed and knotweed.

1995 APPARENT TREND ASSESSMENT

Historically, this site was subject to heavy use by livestock, mostly cattle. There has been no grazing in the area for several years and the canyon bottom is showing good recovery. There is excellent vegetative cover for both erosion control and forage. The composition could be better with a higher density of preferred native species, although Kentucky bluegrass provides needed cover to protect the soil from erosion. Forbs are scattered throughout the site and could provide some forage but not much because of their small size. The herbaceous understory trend at this time is stable while providing abundant soil protection. The soil trend is stable as well for the same reasons. There is no erosion on the site and there will likely not be any as long as the vegetative and litter cover values stay this high. There were no browse species sampled at this time on the site.